

Name Class Date

Below-average Writing Model

Writing Process in Action: Expository Writing (Unit 5, pages 272–275)

Assignment: Write a one- to two-page article that will help sixth-grade science students appreciate a creature otherwise likely to repel them.

Charlottes Web

When I was little my favorite book was the book Charlottes Web. It was about a spider who made friends with a pig and saved his life because she wrote about what a great pig he was in her web. This is a really good book. It's sad at the end because Charlotte dies and Wilber doesn't have his friend any more, but then she has lots of baby spiders and three of them stay with him even though the rest of them go away somewhere.

Spiders are interesting because they can spin webs and catch insects in them for them to eat. These webs are made out of silk. Sometimes they might take the insects and hide them away for later. Spiders can bite but they don't eat people although some people are scarred of big ones like tarantulas and black widows. You shouldn't be scarred of them though because most spiders don't care about people at all. Charlotte cared about Wilbur because that was a book but real spiders aren't like Charlotte. For one thing she is made up, not real. But its still a good story to read. Real spiders just want to make there webs and not be bothered. The spider's webs can be really big and they have to be remade a lot because when a bug is stuck in the web it made a hole in it.

I like spider's webs because of that book and whenever I see them I try to be careful and not brake it because that's not fair to the spider that worked so hard. I also like a lot of kinds of insects too like grasshoppers, fireflies, dragonflys, and some kinds of colorful beetles.

Summary: *This article attempts to respond to the prompt, but the overall focus is unclear and the writing is poorly organized. The piece does not present sufficient facts or other evidence to bring the subject to life, and much of the writing contains vague word choices and grammatical errors that make the ideas hard to follow. The writing could be improved by revising it to present an engaging lead, several body paragraphs, and a related conclusion. The piece also could be improved by revising it throughout to include adequate supporting evidence and correct spelling and grammar usage.*

This piece would probably receive a 1 if evaluated by the holistic scoring method. It might receive a 64 if evaluated by the analytic scoring method—21 points for Focus/Organization, 23 points for Elaboration/Support/Style, and 20 points for Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics.

Title indicates that the piece may be about the book Charlotte's Web.

Opening relates to title but does not connect clearly to the rest of the article.

Presents some facts about spiders but contains grammatical errors that make ideas unclear

Includes irrelevant ideas that confuse the paragraph's focus

Conclusion lacks closure and introduces ideas that further confuse the article's focus.